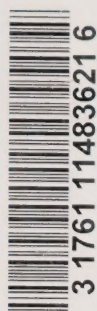


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ENVIRONMENT CANADA.**

NEWS RELEASE



Environment
Canada

Environnement
Canada

news release
communiqué

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
SEPTEMBER 6, 1972
OTTAWA

UNUSUAL CHARTS SHOW EASTERN SEABED

New Atlantic coast geological charts brimming with data of interest to ocean scientists, engineers, industrialists and fishermen have been published by Environment Canada's Water Management Service. The charts are contained in a set of four scientific papers, part of a continuing series prepared by scientists and cartographers of the Marine Sciences Directorate.

Two of the papers analyse and illustrate the seabed geology of areas noted for fishery operations: Northumberland Strait in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and the Banquereau and Misaine Banks off the coast of Nova Scotia. They cover not only the depth and contours of the ocean floor, but also the composition of its surface layer.

Marine engineering projects, such as the installation of oil drilling rigs, construction of causeways or pipelines,

or dredging of sand and gravel, may find this information useful as a guide to the composition, bearing strength and shape of the sea bottom. The data can assist government agencies by identifying the nature and extent of bottom materials and providing a basis for deciding where permits may safely be issued for excavation of materials for building or dredging.

Other uses include: for fishermen, by showing such features as the edges of fishing banks and the type of bottom, indicating the most effective kind and location of fishing gear; and for environmental protection, by indicating conditions to be taken into account in cleaning up oil and other polluting materials.

The third paper in the current set provides a three-dimensional view of the continental margin of eastern North America. The fourth paper details the coastline of Chedabucto Bay, N.S., site of the serious Arrow oil spill in 1970.

The complete papers, including charts, may be ordered (at \$3.00 each) from:

Hydrographic Chart Distribution Office
Marine Sciences Directorate
Environment Canada
Ottawa, Ont. K1A 0E6
(Telephone: 613/994-5594)



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Papers are listed as follows:

Marine Science series:

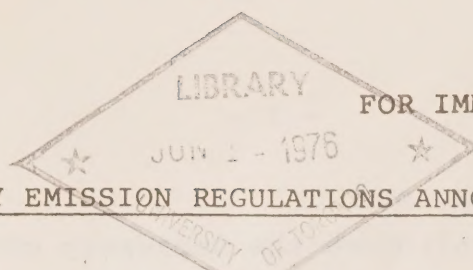
- No. 3 - "Surficial geology of Banquereau and Misaine
Banks map area", by Brian MacLean and Lewis
H. King
- No. 4 - "A reconnaissance of the coastline of Chedabucto
Bay, N.S.," by E.H. Owens
- No. 5 - "Surficial geology of Northumberland Strait",
by Kate Kranck
- No. 9 - "Three-dimensional representation of submarine
relief - continental margin of eastern North
America", by David Monahan

Issued earlier in this series:

- No. 1 - "Surficial geology of Halifax-Sable Island map
area", by Lewis H. King.

74/6/9/72
J.S. Cram
Water Information
994-5633

Dept. of the Environment



MERCURY EMISSION REGULATIONS ANNOUNCED

National standards to limit the amount of mercury emitted to the atmosphere from chlor-alkali plants were proposed today by Environment Minister Jean Marchand.

Reductions in mercury losses brought about by improved operations, several plant closings, and by the proposed regulations would reduce total atmospheric emissions from chlor-alkali plants to about eight percent of 1970 levels.

To be issued under the Clean Air Act, the proposed regulations would limit emissions of mercury to 5.3 grams per day for each 1,000 kilograms of chlorine production design capacity. Ten chlor-alkali plants in Canada use mercury in the manufacture of chlorine and caustic soda.

Mr. Marchand said that "On the advice of the Department of National Health and Welfare, Environment Canada is adopting a prudent course to control sources of mercury emissions to the atmosphere for the protection of public health". He emphasized that the proposed regulations apply only to emissions to the atmosphere and that conditions within a plant are regulated by industrial hygiene standards.

"I have already informed the industry of the emission limits proposed and have received assurances that action is

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being taken to introduce the necessary control measures," Mr. Marchand stated.

Estimated Canada-wide emissions of mercury to the atmosphere from this industry were 26.4 tons in 1970. Because of improved operations and plant closings, current emission levels are estimated at 12 tons per year. Application of the proposed regulations would reduce emissions to two tons per year.

Pollution control technology capable of meeting the proposed regulations is available to industry. Most chlor-alkali plants have some control equipment in operation and a few plants would require little further expenditure to meet the standards.

The Minister invited comments from the public and environmental groups, as well as the industry, on the proposed regulations before their submission to the Governor-in-Council for adoption.

For further information:

Mr. P.L. Marsh
(819) 997-1517
Environmental Protection Service

35/5/31/76

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ASBESTOS SURVEY RESULTS ANNOUNCED

Federal Environment Minister Jean Marchand and Newfoundland Environment Minister Ank Murphy today jointly released the results of two ambient air surveys carried out in the Baie Verte area of Newfoundland.

The Environmental Protection Service of Environment Canada conducted the surveys in conjunction with the Newfoundland Department of Provincial Affairs and Environment. The field portion of the surveys was carried out in September, 1974, and April, 1975.

Analysis of the survey results indicated that there were higher than normal amounts of asbestos fibres in the air in the area of Baie Verte from time to time. During some of these periods the amounts were higher than the limit that has been proposed as the Ontario standard. These high levels were attributable to the asbestos mining and milling operations of Advocate Mines Limited.

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The province has had discussions with the mining company regarding this problem. The company has informed the provincial and federal environmental departments that it has initiated a \$1.2 million program to reduce emissions of asbestos fibres from its plant.

The two departments plan to monitor the progress of the company's environmental control program and will ensure that surveillance is carried out on a regular basis.

Environment Canada will be promulgating national emission standard regulations for asbestos in the near future. The Advocate Mines Limited plant will be obliged to comply with these regulations.

41/6/10/76

For more information:

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Environmental Protection Service,
Environment Canada
Newfoundland
(709) 737-5488

Mr. Cyril J. Downey
ADM - Newfoundland Environment
(709) 737-2561

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO SHARE DEVELOPMENT COST OF
AIR POLLUTION CONTROLS AT NEW BRUNSWICK PAPER PLANT

Environment Canada will provide financial assistance for the development and demonstration of new technology that will reduce particulate and odor emissions by 96 per cent at the St. Anne-Nackawic Pulp and Paper Company plant in New Brunswick, the Honourable Jean Marchand announced today.

The scrubbing installation will cost several million dollars, and the Federal Government will contribute about \$1 million under Environment Canada's Development and Demonstration of Pollution Abatement Technology Program (DPAT).

Like many kraft mills, the St. Anne-Nackawic Plant, on the St. John River about 40 miles northwest of Fredericton, emits large quantities of objectionable particulates and gases to the atmosphere. The plant causes an unpleasant odor that under certain wind conditions drifts down the scenic St. John River Valley as far as Fredericton, and detracts from the extensive use of the Valley by residents and tourists for fishing, boating and camping.

Another benefit of the new technology is that particulates and gases recovered by the scrubbing system will be recycled to the paper-making process and thus reduce the plant's expenditures for chemicals.

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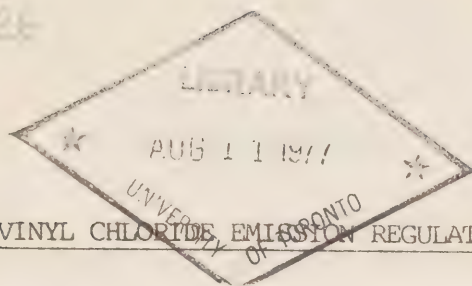
If the demonstration of the new air pollution abatement technology is successful, it could be installed in other Canadian kraft mills that have similar pollution problems.

- 30 -

46/6/17/76

For more information:

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(819) 997-1843
Environmental Protection Service.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

N29-CA

VINYL CHLORIDE EMISSION REGULATIONS ANNOUNCED

OTTAWA - Roméo LeBlanc, Federal Minister of Fisheries and the Environment today announced proposed national standards under the Clean Air Act to limit vinyl chloride emissions from vinyl and polyvinyl chloride manufacturing operations.

The control program, consisting of the proposed emission limits for specific in-plant sources and a code of good operating practice, will reduce the level of vinyl chloride emissions by approximately 95% based on a 1973 survey. Estimated national emissions of this compound in 1973 from vinyl and polyvinyl chloride manufacturers were 5,000 tons. The controls will reduce this level to about 250 tons per year. Pollution control technology capable of meeting the proposed regulations is currently available and some of these controls have been implemented by plant operators.

Mr. LeBlanc noted that the specified emission limits reflect the prudent course of action aimed at protecting the health of persons living near these industrial sources. Over the past several years vinyl chloride has been implicated as a causal agent of angiosarcoma, a form of liver cancer, and other serious health disorders.

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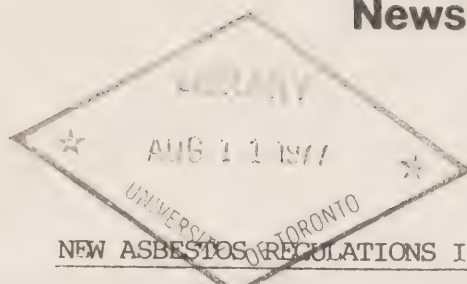
The proposed regulations containing emission limits for specific sources within manufacturing operations and the code of good practice will be published in the Canada Gazette, Part 1, June 20, 1977. Comments are invited from interested parties during the 60 days following the Gazette announcement after which final regulations will be published.

- 30 -

For further information:

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Environmental Protection Service
(819) 997-2342

48/20/6/77



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEW ASBESTOS REGULATIONS IN EFFECT

OTTAWA - The asbestos mining and milling industry throughout Canada have started monitoring operations as the new regulations on emission standards for the industry became law on July 13, 1977.

The new regulations, promulgated under the Clean Air Act, will allow only two asbestos fibres per cubic centimetre to be emitted to the surrounding air from crushing, drying or milling operations and from dry rock storage.

While these limits do not come into effect until December 31, 1978, the regulations stipulate an immediate start on monitoring operations of individual plants.

"This will allow enforcement agencies to identify problem areas", said Fisheries and Environment Minister Roméo LeBlanc. "They will then be able to focus their attention on them as the deadline approaches".

Emission measurements, to be taken in the presence of government inspectors, will be submitted every six months in the case of milling operations, and yearly for crushing and drying and from dry rock storage.

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With the deadline of December 31, 1978, the industry will have sufficient time to install any additional control equipment needed to meet the standard.

Health and Welfare Canada have carried out studies on asbestos and have stated that "Because of known serious effects of uncontrolled inhalation of asbestos minerals in industry, it cannot be considered prudent to permit uncontrolled contamination of the public environment with asbestos".

The Clean Air Act gives the federal government the authority to set national emission standards where there is a danger to health.

Canada is the western world's largest producer of asbestos, supplying about 35 per cent of global production. Most of the mines are in the eastern townships of Quebec, with others in Newfoundland, Ontario, British Columbia and Yukon Territory.

58/7/19/77

For further information:

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Environmental Protection Service
(819) 997-3157

N31-CA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ATMOSPHERIC MERCURY LOSS REGULATIONS NOW IN EFFECT

Regulations under the Clean Air Act requiring chlor-alkali plants to report on emission control devices, operational malfunctions and breakdowns are now in effect.

With publication of the Chlor-Alkali Mercury National Emission Standards Regulations in the Canada Gazette, the plants must now provide emission measurement reports at regular intervals.

"Our program has been set up with the full knowledge of the industry," said Fisheries and Environment Minister Roméo LeBlanc. "Over the next year, we want to keep abreast of what they are doing to reduce pollution."

In 1972, Environment Canada regulated the discharge of mercury into water under the Fisheries Act. Since then, mercury effluents have been reduced to less than one per cent of pre-control losses.

Although the new limits for mercury loss from Chlor-alkali plants do not become effective until July 1, 1978, the regular reports will help enforcement agencies identify problem areas before the deadline.

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The new regulations confine mercury loss to the atmosphere to 5.3 grams per day for each 1,000 kilograms of chlorine production design capacity, and a total maximum emission of 1.68 kilograms per day, regardless of plant capacity.

Sufficient time has been allowed with the July 1, 1978 deadline for chlor-alkali plants to install additional control equipment needed to meet the new standards, or make provisions for conversion to alternate processes which do not use mercury.

At present there are nine chlor-alkali plants in Canada using mercury in the manufacture of chlorine and caustic soda. This number is expected to decrease to less than half a dozen in the next year or two as old plants are phased out or converted to non-mercury processes.

Enactment of the new regulations marks another step in Fisheries and Environment Canada's program to control industrial discharges of mercury into the environment. Release of mercury from natural sources is another

area under scrutiny. Departmental officials say that only with a full understanding of the behaviour of mercury in the environment can the problem be overcome.

56/8/9/77

For further information:

Dr. D.B.W. Robinson,
Environmental Protection Service
(819) 997-1517

Release Communiqué

LEVELS FOR AIR CONTAMINANTS ADOPTED

OTTAWA - Maximum tolerable levels have been set for five major air contaminants under the Clean Air Act, Environment Minister Len Marchand announced today.

The five contaminants -- particulate matter, sulphur dioxide, carbon monoxide, oxidants (ozone), and nitrogen dioxide -- are responsible for 90 per cent of total air pollution in Canada.

Under the Clean Air Act of 1971, three levels for air quality were set -- desirable, acceptable, and tolerable.

Desirable is the level where the environment generally is not affected; acceptable is the level where minimal effects of contaminants are considered to be reasonable.

When air quality conditions have deteriorated to the maximum tolerable level, prompt abatement action is necessary by local authorities. Surveillance of air quality in Canada over the past several years, however, has shown these levels are seldom reached.

- more -

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Maximum tolerable levels for the five major air contaminants were developed by a federal-provincial committee.

The upper range of the five major air contaminants for tolerable levels is: particulate matter, 400 micrograms per cubic meter (24-hour average), sulphur dioxide, 800 micrograms per cubic meter (24-hour average); carbon monoxide, 20 milligrams per cubic meter (8-hour average); oxidants, 300 micrograms per cubic meter (1-hour average); nitrogen dioxide, 300 micrograms per cubic meter (24-hour average) and 1,000 micrograms per cubic meter (1-hour average).

Desirable and acceptable levels were adopted under the Clean Air Act in 1974 for four of the pollutants, and in 1975 for nitrogen dioxide.

National Air Quality Objectives are required to provide: a uniform yardstick to measure air quality in all parts of Canada; a basis for keeping the air clean in unpolluted parts of the country; a basis for determining priorities for tackling pollution problems; an indication of the extent of surveillance

programs required; and a framework for enforcement programs by control agencies.

The newly-adopted Air Quality Objectives (Maximum Tolerable Levels) will be published in Part II of the Canada Gazette.

These pollutants are produced in a number of ways. Particulate matter in solid or liquid form may originate with industrial processes as well as other human activities, and with nature. Particulates also reduce visibility and contribute to property damage and soiling.

Sulphur dioxide results from industrial processes and the combustion of fossil fuels.

Oxidants are produced in the atmosphere when reactive organic substances - chiefly hydrocarbons - are exposed to sunlight in the presence of nitrogen oxides. In addition to their possible connection with respiratory diseases, they also damage plants and materials such as rubber and textiles.

Nitrogen oxides originate principally with high-temperature combustion processes.

Carbon monoxide results from some industrial processes, and incomplete combustion of carbon-containing fuels. It decreases the oxygen-carrying capacity of the blood, and at excessive levels may impair mental processes.

09/08/02/78

For further information:

R.J. Powell
Environmental Protection Service
(819) 997-1344

Les oxydants se forment dans l'atmosphère lorsque des substances organiques, des hydrocarbures surtout, réagissent à la lumière en présence d'oxydes d'azote. Outre leur rôle possible dans les maladies respiratoires, ils s'attaquent à la végétation et aux matières comme le caoutchouc et les tissus.

Les oxydes d'azote résultent principalement des procédés de combustion à haute température.

Enfin, le monoxyde de carbone provient de la combustion incomplète des combustibles riches en carbone et de quelques procédés industriels. Il empêche la fixation de l'oxygène par le sang et, à de fortes concentrations, peut perturber les processus mentaux.

19/08/02/78

Pour plus de renseignements:

R.J. Powell

(819) 997-1344

Service de la protection
de l'environnement.

Les niveaux maximaux tolérables adoptés sont les suivants:

400 microgrammes par mètre cube pour les particules en suspension (moyenne de 24 h); 800 microgrammes par mètre cube pour le bioxyde d'azote (moyenne de 24 h); 20 microgrammes par mètre cube pour le monoxyde de carbone (moyenne de 8 h); 300 microgrammes par mètre cube pour les oxydants (moyenne de 1 h); 300 microgrammes par mètre cube (moyenne de 24 h) et 1000 microgrammes par mètre cube (moyenne de 1 h) pour le bioxyde d'azote.

Les niveaux acceptables et souhaitables ont été adoptés en 1974 pour les quatre premiers polluants et en 1975 pour le bioxyde d'azote.

Les objectifs nationaux de la qualité de l'air servent d'étalon pour mesurer la qualité de l'air dans tout le Canada, de barrière à la pollution de l'air dans les régions non polluées, de guide des priorités à déterminer pour lutter contre la pollution, d'indicateur du degré de surveillance à exercer et de référence pour l'activité des organismes de coercition.

Les nouveaux objectifs de la qualité de l'air seront publiés dans la partie II de la Gazette du Canada.

Les polluants visés sont produits de multiples façons. Ainsi, les particules solides ou liquides en suspension ont une origine autant industrielle qu'anthropique ou naturelle. Elles réduisent la visibilité et endommagent et salissent la propriété.

Le bioxyde de soufre provient de l'industrie et de l'utilisation des combustibles fossiles. (suite)



Release Communiqué

NOUVELLES LIMITES DE CONCENTRATION POUR LES CONTAMINANTS DE L'AIR

OTTAWA - Les niveaux maximaux tolérables de concentration de cinq principaux agents de contamination de l'air, adoptés aux termes de la Loi sur la lutte contre la pollution atmosphérique, ont été annoncés aujourd'hui par M. Len Marchand, ministre de l'Environnement.

Ces cinq polluants, les particules en suspension, le bioxyde de soufre, le monoxyde de carbone, les oxydants (ozone) et le bioxyde d'azote, produisent 90% de la pollution atmosphérique au Canada.

La Loi sur la lutte contre la pollution atmosphérique définit trois niveaux de la qualité de l'air, souhaitable, acceptable et tolérable. Le niveau souhaitable est celui qui n'a aucun effet nuisible sur l'environnement. Le niveau acceptable est celui où l'effet des contaminants est tellement minime qu'il ne paraît pas raisonnable de s'en inquiéter. Le niveau maximum tolérable est celui où la qualité de l'air s'est détériorée au point que les autorités locales doivent prendre immédiatement des mesures correctives. Les contrôles exercés au Canada depuis quelques années, montrent que ces niveaux sont rarement atteints.

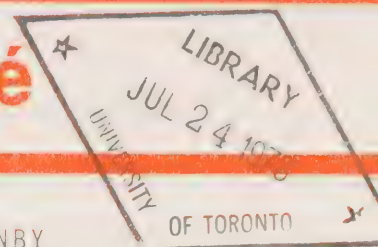
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Release

Communiqué



LEN MARCHAND RECOMMENDS ACCEPTANCE OF PORT GRANBY
URANIUM REFINERY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REPORT

OTTAWA, May 29 -- Environment Minister Len Marchand has endorsed the recommendations of the federal Environmental Assessment Panel on the Port Granby uranium hexafluoride refinery proposed by Eldorado Nuclear Ltd., a federal Crown corporation.

Mr. Marchand said he has recommended acceptance of the Panel's findings to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, through whom the Crown corporation reports to Parliament.

The Environmental Assessment Panel made recommendations on three questions in its report: the refinery and plant processes; the waste management system; and the effects on land-use of the refinery and waste management facility.

The Panel found the planned refinery and plant processes to be acceptable if a number of conditions were met. But it considered Eldorado's proposed waste management system unsuitable as a means of storage. It also concluded that the Port Granby site chosen by the company would not be acceptable for the project. On the question of land use, Mr. Marchand noted that his Department had recently made public detailed studies on losses of agricultural land to urban development.

(more)

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"The department has consulted with industrial spokesmen," said Mr. Marchand, "and as a result the regulations have been modified. We will also consider comments from industry during the 60-day period before the regulations become law."

Although the emission limits come into force on July 1, 1979, the regulations provide for reporting on control measures prior to that date, so that enforcement actions can be focused on the problem areas.

Pollution control technology capable of meeting the proposed regulations is currently available and some controls have already been implemented by plant operators.

79/12/09/78

For further information:

A.B. Gibson
Environmental Protection Service
(819) 997-2342



Release

Communiqué

le 12 septembre 1978

ANNONCE D'UN RÈGLEMENT SUR LE CHLORURE DE VINYLE

OTTAWA - Le règlement publié le 26 août dans la Gazette du Canada aux termes de la Loi sur la lutte contre la pollution atmosphérique permettra de réduire sensiblement les dégagements de chlorure de vinyle, a déclaré aujourd'hui le ministre de l'Environnement, M. Len Marchand.

Le chlorure de vinyle, qui provient des fabriques de chlorure de vinyle et de polyvinyle, avait été accusé de provoquer l'angiosarcome, forme de cancer du foie, et d'autres affections graves.

En 1973, les dégagements de chlorure de vinyle se sont élevés, à l'échelle du pays, à 5 000 tonnes par année. On s'attend à ce qu'ils ne soient plus que de 250 tonnes par année à compter du premier juillet 1979. Actuellement, quatre de ces fabriques sont en exploitation au Canada et deux autres en construction.

L'ensemble du programme d'épuration, qui fait appel aux limites fédérales de dégagement aux sources ponctuelles et à un code de prescriptions techniques destinées à réduire les dégagements aux autres sources, réduira les dégagements de chlorure de vinyle de 95 % de ce qu'ils étaient en 1973.

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Le règlement entrera en vigueur soixante jours après sa publication dans la Gazette du Canada.

"Le ministère a tenu des consultations avec les représentants de l'industrie et a apporté par la suite certaines modifications aux règlements, a précisé M. Marchand. Nous tiendrons également compte des commentaires qu'ils formuleront au cours de la période de 60 jours précédant l'entrée en vigueur des règlements."

Bien que les limites de dégagement n'entrent en vigueur que le 1er juillet 1979, le règlement dit qu'il faut faire un rapport sur les mesures d'épuration avant cette date, de sorte que les mesures coercitives portent davantage sur les secteurs où la situation est plus critique.

Des techniques d'épuration capables de satisfaire aux exigences du règlement proposé existent actuellement et quelques fabriques en appliquent déjà.

79/12/09/78

Pour tous renseignements:

A.B. Gibson
Service de la protection de l'environnement
(819) 997-2342



CAI
EP
- 126

Release

Communiqué

LEN MARCHAND ANNOUNCES EMISSION GUIDELINES FOR PACKAGED INCINERATORS

OTTAWA -- Guidelines recommending limits on atmospheric emissions from packaged incinerators in Canada were announced today by Environment Minister Len Marchand. The guidelines were developed under the federal Clean Air Act.

Packaged incinerators -- usually assembled and ready for use -- are employed by institutional, commercial, and industrial establishments. They typically have a burning capacity of 100 kilograms of solid wastes per hour, although they vary in size up to 900 kilograms per hour.

As a result of their operation, several air contaminants are emitted -- particulate matter, hydrogen chloride and sulphur dioxide. Odor is also a problem under certain conditions.

While the total amount of these pollutants is relatively small on a national scale, they can be a significant source of local pollution and nuisance complaints. There are an estimated 10,000 of these incinerators currently operating in Canada.

The guidelines were developed in co-operation with industry and provincial authorities. The intent of the guidelines is that gases discharged to the atmosphere from new installations should not

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be visible (zero opacity).

In addition, the gases should not contain particulate matter in excess of 0.75 grams per kilogram of solid waste burned. Emissions should not contain hydrogen chloride in excess of 100 parts per million on a dry basis, corrected to 50 per cent excess air, nor sulphur dioxide in excess of 250 ppm on a dry basis, corrected to 50 per cent excess air.

Emission limits for particulate matter and opacity for new installations are based on the use of new technology which allows a reduction of emissions of over 50 per cent as compared to older installations. This result is achieved by the incinerator design itself without the use of add-on devices such as particulate collectors. The emission guidelines also include recommended enforcement procedures adapted to the large number of sources involved.

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92/29/11/78

For further information:

W.A. Warfe
Environmental Protection Service
(819) 997-1518

November 29, 1978.

Release Communiqué

LEN MARCHAND ANNONCE DES

LIGNES DIRECTRICES RELATIVES AUX ÉMISSIONS DES INCINÉRATEURS COMPACTS

OTTAWA -- Le ministre de l'Environnement, M. Len Marchand, a annoncé aujourd'hui la publication de lignes directrices sous l'autorité de la Loi sur la lutte contre la pollution atmosphérique recommandant des limites d'émission pour les incinérateurs compacts au Canada.

Ces incinérateurs, habituellement assemblés et prêts à servir, sont utilisés dans les établissements industriels, commerciaux et publics. Leur capacité normale de combustion est d'environ 100 kilogrammes de déchets solides par heure, bien que chez certains, elle puisse atteindre 900 kilogrammes par heure.

Leur fonctionnement entraîne le rejet de polluants dans l'atmosphère, notamment des particules, du chlorure d'hydrogène et du dioxyde de soufre. Il s'en dégage aussi, à l'occasion, des odeurs plutôt répugnantes.

Bien qu'émis en quantités plutôt faibles à la grandeur du pays, ces polluants peuvent néanmoins être à la source d'une importante pollution locale et bien sûr, d'un certain nombre de plaintes. On estime à 10,000 le nombre de ces incinérateurs actuellement en service au Canada.

(suite)

This information was released to the wire services on the date indicated. Despite the delay, some releases and speeches are mailed to out-of town media because the content is not time-dependent or because it will be useful for background files.

Cette information a été transmise aux agences de presse à la date indiquée. Malgré le retard, certains communiqués et discours sont expédiés aux médias de l'extérieur parce que leur contenu n'a rien à voir avec les délais ou parce qu'ils peuvent servir comme documentation.

Les lignes directrices, élaborées en collaboration avec l'industrie et les autorités provinciales, visent à ce que les gaz dégagés par les nouvelles installations ne produisent pas d'émissions visibles.

En outre, leur teneur en particules ne devraient pas dépasser 0,75 gramme par kilogramme de déchets brûlés; celle du chlorure d'hydrogène, ramenée à 50% d'excès d'air, 100 parties par million, à l'état sec; et celle du dioxyde de soufre, ramenée à 50% d'excès d'air, 250 parties par million, à l'état sec.

Un modèle récent d'incinérateur émet au moins 50% de moins de particules que les modèles antérieurs. Cette amélioration provient d'une modification de la combustion dans l'incinérateur, sans qu'il y ait de dépoussiérage externe.

Les limites d'émission de particules et d'opacité, fixées d'après cette technique, figurent dans les lignes directrices ainsi que les mesures que l'on recommande d'appliquer aux nombreuses sources visées.

92/29/11/78

Pour tous renseignements:

W.A. Warfe,

Service de la protection de l'environnement
Tél: (819) 997-1518

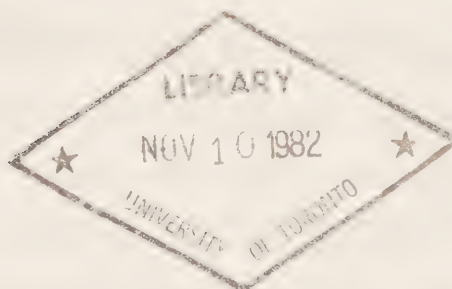
le 29 novembre 1978.

Release

This information was released to the wire services on the date indicated. Despite the delay, some releases and speeches are mailed to out of town media because the content is not time dependent or because it is requested by the media.

Date: September 2, 1982

For release: IMMEDIATE



ROBERTS ANNOUNCES FEDERAL GUIDELINES FOR FOREST RENEWAL

OTTAWA: Environment Minister John Roberts today announced the framework for a long-term, comprehensive program of forest revitalization.

The program, which recently received Cabinet approval, reaffirms the need for a concerted attack on forest renewal in Canada in order to meet the wood supply goal of an increase in production of at least 40 per cent by the year 2000. This target was adopted by the federal government and the 10 provinces two years ago.

A Framework for Forest Renewal, a paper released today by Mr. Roberts, provides an estimate of the cost involved in forest renewal and lays out a cost-sharing arrangement by which that goal may be reached. The program also establishes eight guidelines which will serve as the basis for all future federal-provincial forest renewal agreements.

The announcement today is a major step in fulfilling the objectives of the federal forest sector strategy paper released in October, 1981, that underlined the urgent need for increasing Canada's sustainable timber harvest. That strategy paper identified forest renewal as the most important means of ensuring the long-term viability of Canada's forests. It also noted, however, that local shortages of competitively priced wood have emerged in practically every province of the country. The government's paper, Economic Development for Canada in the 1980s, released a month later, reaffirmed the importance of forestry as one of the five key resource sectors in the Canadian economy.

"Every province will share in economic growth and prosperity if we succeed in our goal of changing the pattern of forest development," said Mr. Roberts. "The benefits will be felt where they are needed most, in non-urban areas where more often than not forestry is the major employer where alternative opportunities for employment are limited."

The forest renewal paper indicates that, in order to achieve growth in the forest sector, expenditures of some \$650 million per year will have to be made by governments and industry. This contrasts with the present expenditure of some \$300 million. The federal government now spends some \$50 million yearly on forest renewal, through DREE agreements, and approximately the same amount through employment stimulation programs.

Mr. Roberts said that the federal government would be prepared to extend its present level of financial commitment on forest agreements if the provinces increased their commitment. The level of federal commitment will be determined after consultations with the provinces and on a basis consistent with the 6% - 5% Program.

"This program is designed to assist in the transition from mining the forests to treating them as a renewable resource. The provinces and industry are best equipped to determine the course that will have the most beneficial effects on their own regions once the critical transition period is over, once our forest renewal objectives have been established and a workable forest management system is in place," said Mr. Roberts.

The forest renewal paper outlines eight guidelines according to which all future agreements will be negotiated.

The guidelines are:

1. New federal-provincial forestry agreements must be designed to be consistent with the terms and objectives of Canada's forest sector strategy.
2. No further agreements will be implemented in a province that has not established a long-term forest renewal plan of at least 20 years' duration. These plans must include timber production goals with emphasis on forest renewal, protection, closer utilization and increased productivity in the mills.
3. New agreements will carry guarantees for the prompt transferral of research results from the scientist to the practising field forester.
4. Federal funds will be applied to intensive timber stand improvement. The provinces and industry will be expected to carry the major responsibility for basic forestry.
5. All agreements will specify that federal funds are to be used as incentives for the provinces and industry to increase their spending on forest renewal projects.
6. Special emphasis will be placed on smaller private woodlots.
7. New agreements will be accomplished by direct delivery and by strengthened communications programs.
8. All forest management agreements will be evaluated for their effectiveness at five-year intervals.

In releasing the forest renewal paper, Mr. Roberts emphasized the urgency with which a concerted program of forest renewal must be undertaken. He stressed the importance of increased spending by both levels of government and industry to maintain a healthy forest sector. He reaffirmed the federal government's commitment to continued support and assistance for the sector in cooperation with those provinces that are willing to increase their commitment to this important goal.

44/02/09/82 - 00102

Further information plus copies of the various documents, please contact:

Richard Herring, (819) 997-4191; Joan Huntley, (819) 997-6555; or Peter Serafini, (819) 997-1441.



Release

Communiqué

ARSENIC EMISSIONS REGULATIONS ANNOUNCED

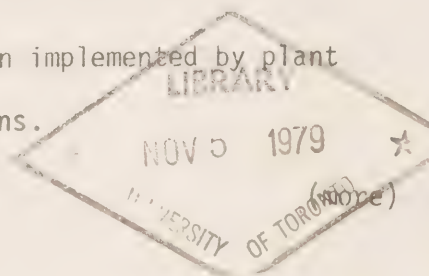
OTTAWA, October 16, 1979 -- Federal Environment Minister John Fraser today announced new regulations under the Clean Air Act that will limit arsenic emissions from gold roasting to less than 15 per cent of the 1972 amounts.

Emissions of arsenic from gold roasting operations, based on the federal emission inventory of 1972, were 1,934 tons per year. The proposed regulations will limit these emissions to about 25 tons per year, or .3 per cent of the amount of arsenic associated with the operation. National emissions of arsenic in Canada from all sources for 1972 were 4,073 tons.

"For some time arsenic has been known to be a toxic material, and recent epidemiological studies have shown it causes cancer in humans. The new regulations are aimed at reducing the health hazard to the population living near these industrial sources," said Mr. Fraser.

The Minister added that the pollution control technology capable of meeting the proposed regulations is currently available.

Some of these controls have already been implemented by plant operators and are reducing the level of emissions.



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A socio-economic impact analysis (SEIA) has shown that the new regulations will have no major effect on the economy. According to the SEIA, there will be no reduction in operations, no plant closedowns, and no inflationary impact. The analysis is available to the public.

Work is currently under way on developing regulations to limit arsenic emissions from the non-ferrous metallurgical industrial sector, the second largest source of arsenic emissions in Canada.

Following publication of the gold roasting regulations in the Canada Gazette, there will be a 90-day period for interested parties to comment. The regulations are scheduled to come into effect July 1, 1980.

57/16/10/79 - 5002

For further information:

W.A. Lemmon

Environmental Protection Service

Ottawa (819) 997-3405



Release

Communiqué

PUBLICATION DU RÈGLEMENT SUR LES DÉGAGEMENTS D'ARSENIC

OTTAWA, le 16 octobre 1979 -- Le ministre de l'Environnement, M. John Fraser, a annoncé, aujourd'hui, en application de la Loi sur la lutte contre la pollution atmosphérique, la publication d'un nouveau règlement qui limitera les dégagements d'arsenic causés par le grillage de l'or à moins de 15% de ce qu'ils étaient en 1972.

D'après l'inventaire fédéral de 1972, ces dégagements se sont alors élevés à 1 934 tonnes. Tel que proposé, le règlement les limitera à 25 tonnes par an ou à 0,3% de la quantité d'arsenic entrant dans cette opération. En 1972, les dégagements d'arsenic de toutes natures ont, dans l'ensemble du pays, atteint 4 073 tonnes.

"On savait déjà depuis un certain temps que l'arsenic était toxique, mais de récentes études épidémiologiques ont établi qu'il provoquait le cancer chez l'homme. Le nouveau règlement vise à protéger la santé des personnes vivant près de ces sources de pollution industrielle," a déclaré M. Fraser.

Le Ministre a déclaré que les techniques nécessaires à cette dépollution existent actuellement et que certaines sont déjà appliquées avec succès.

(suite)

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M. Fraser a aussi dit que selon l'analyse des incidences socio-économiques, rendue publique, le règlement n'aura pas de répercussions importantes sur l'économie, qu'il n'en résultera ni réduction d'activité, ni fermeture d'installation, ni poussée inflationniste.

Des travaux se poursuivent actuellement en vue d'édicter d'ici 2 ans un règlement qui limitera les dégagements d'arsenic de l'industrie des métaux non ferreux, deuxième cause de ces rejets au pays.

À la suite de la publication du règlement sur le grillage de l'or dans la Gazette du Canada, les intéressés auront quatre-vingt dix jours pour faire connaître leurs vues. Son entrée en vigueur est prévue pour le 1^{er} juillet 1980.

57/16/10/79 - 5002

Pour tout renseignement complémentaire:

W.A. Lemmon

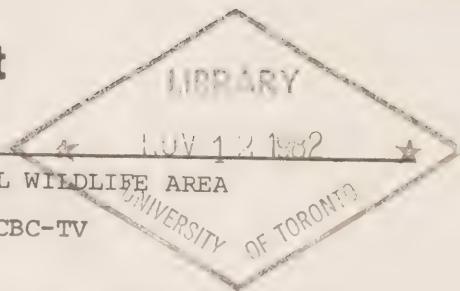
Service de la protection de l'environnement

Ottawa - (819) 997-3405



**Environment
Canada**

**Environnement
Canada**



THE NATURE OF THINGS VISITS LONG POINT NATIONAL WILDLIFE AREA

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10 AT 8 P.M. ON CBC-TV

Three centuries ago French missionaries exploring the Great Lakes came upon a 32-kilometre-long sandspit on the North shore of Lake Erie and pronounced it "paradise". Known today as Long Point National Wildlife Area, it has retained much of its original appearance and attractiveness to wildlife despite man's encroachment.

How this part of the Erie shore has been preserved as a wilderness area and wildlife sanctuary is revealed in a one hour film on The Nature Of Things, Wednesday, November 10 at 8 p.m. est (8:30 nst).

Long Point used to be an exclusive hunting area owned by a group of sportsmen who in 1866 formed the Long Point Co. and bought 7 695 hectares of marshland where they established strict control and management of hunting for their private club. The company hired local poachers as game-keepers, outlawed spring shooting and made the club-members buy licenses. They ensured that the marshlands were properly managed so that they could recover from the unregulated hunting that had devastated the wildlife population by the middle of the 19th century.

In the late '70s the company turned over to the Canadian Wildlife Service some 3 200 hectares for which a resource management plan is now being developed. Bird-watchers can find there such species as Wilson's phalaropes, the Virginia rail, the prothonotary warbler, terns, woodpeckers, hawks, swallows, redwinged blackbirds, blue herons, swans, geese and many kinds of ducks.

Part public and part private, Long Point has many claims to uniqueness, including its status as a turtle refuge, for it is home to the spotted turtle. It is also famed for its varied wooded area -- a mixture of junipers, cottonwoods, pine, birch, tamarack, oak and maple, sumac and magnolia.

This edition of The Nature Of Things was written and narrated by John Livingston; with acknowledgements to the Canadian Wildlife Service, the Long Point Bird Observatory, and the Long Point Company.

Release

This information was released to the wire services on the date indicated. Despite the delay, some releases and speeches are mailed to out of town media because the content is not time dependent or because it will be useful for background files.

Date: March 14, 1983

For release: IMMEDIATE



ROBERTS ANNOUNCES INCREASED FUNDS FOR FORESTRY TRAINING, R&D

OTTAWA -- Environment Minister John Roberts announced today that \$15.5 million has been earmarked by the federal government to support forestry training over the next three years. Another \$5.5 million will go towards strengthening the federal effort in forestry research and development over the next year.

"The forest industry is a major employer across Canada and contributes substantially to the country's economy," said Mr. Roberts. This new funding is tangible evidence that the federal government is prepared to move ahead quickly to strengthen the forestry sector. I hope the industry and the provinces will be encouraged to share in this responsibility".

The federal government's Forest Sector Strategy for Canada which was published in October 1981 pointed out that Canada's forest sector is moving from an era of exploitation of the old natural forest to one of intensive management of a new forest. It is estimated that improved forest management can more than double the productivity of Canada's better forest land and that innovations in processing can increase the product yield per cubic metre of harvested timber, thereby improving Canada's position in the international market place.

Federal funding for university contract research and development, grants to forestry schools and for student employment will amount to \$15.5 million between now and 1986, starting with \$1 million in grants to forestry schools this year. The schools offering forestry programs are University of New Brunswick, Laval University in Quebec City, University of Toronto, Lakehead University in Thunder Bay, University of Alberta in Edmonton and University of British Columbia.

Mr. Roberts said strong graduate training and research programs related to forestry are the key to developing the faculties needed to train the researchers and professionals required for the future. This additional funding for forestry training will help the universities to develop this capability.

The funds will also enable the government to provide summer employment for 300 students a year in forestry-related activities, through the federal internship program of Employment and Immigration Canada.

The \$5.5 million for research and development will improve the federal government's capability to support and carry out research in the areas of production, protection, basic research, harvesting and forest products, through the Canadian Forestry Service of Environment Canada. There will be further discussions by the government on continuing this increase for federal research in future years.

For further information contact:

Carl Winget
Environment Canada
(819) 997-1305

Release

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Date: May 27, 1983

For release: IMMEDIATE

ROBERTS MEETS WITH RUCKELSHAUS

OTTAWA -- Canadian Environment Minister John Roberts and United States EPA Administrator, William D. Ruckelshaus met for the first time this morning at the Environmental Protection Agency in Washington, D.C. Both had expressed the desire to meet as soon as possible after Mr. Ruckelshaus' confirmation and to renew the traditionally friendly relationship between the two agencies.

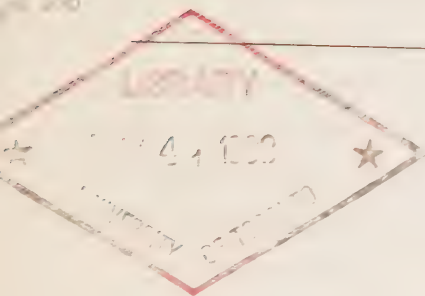
The hour long meeting, which did not address substantive issues in detail, was a congenial get acquainted session. Mr. Roberts outlined Canadian concerns on transboundary environmental matters. He described to Mr. Ruckelshaus the Canadian perspectives on acid rain, the bilateral efforts to improve the water quality of the Great Lakes, and toxic pollution.

At last week's swearing-in ceremony President Reagan urged Mr. Ruckelshaus to confront the issue of acid rain head-on. Mr. Ruckelshaus said that he places a high priority on reviewing the problem, and that it must be viewed with a new sense of urgency. Both environmental officials expressed optimism that they would be able to work together to develop effective and mutually beneficial responses to all environmental problems along and across the Canada/USA boundary.

- 30 -

Further information
Peter Serafini
Ottawa
(819) 997-1441

18/27/05/83 - 00080



This information was released to the wire services on the date indicated. Despite the delay, some releases and speeches are mailed to out of town media because the content is not time dependent or because it will be useful for background files.

Date: April 25, 1983

For release: IMMEDIATE

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO PURCHASE WATER BOMBERS

OTTAWA -- Environment Minister John Roberts announced today that the federal government plans to spend up to \$147 million over the next four years to purchase 20 CL-215 water bombers under the Special Recovery Projects Program.

Mr. Roberts said the aircraft, to be built by Canadair in Montreal, would be purchased through a cooperative supply agreement with the provinces. Under the terms of such an agreement, the federal government would purchase four aircraft for use in the territories and up to sixteen planes on a one-to-one matching basis with the provinces. Consultations are underway with the provinces to finalize arrangements for their participation in the water bomber purchase program.

Over the past two years since Cabinet approved the Forest Sector Strategy for Canada, federal support and funding for the forest sector has increased significantly in the areas of human resources; research and development; forest renewal; job creation under Section 38 of the Unemployment Insurance Act; administration of the forest resource development agreements; and forest fire suppression.

Mr. Roberts said that the government's contribution to a national fleet of water bombers will go a long way towards forestry protection which is a key element of the federal forestry strategy.

Mr. Roberts noted that over the last five years, forest fires have burned on the average three and one-half times more forest land than was harvested by the forest products industry. "The water bombers will constitute a national fleet to meet peak fire season needs when provincial fire-fighting resources are fully committed," said Mr. Roberts. "That's when failure to have enough 'flying fire trucks' results in escaped fires which are the most difficult to contain and where hundreds of millions of dollars of timber are lost," he added.

Mr. Roberts said the water bomber purchase program is an excellent example of federal-provincial cooperation to address a major national need.

In 1982, a federal-provincial Forest Fire Task Force identified a need to bolster the provincial fleets and to provide for added water bombing capability to meet peak fire season needs.

Besides keeping a technologically important production line in operation, the water bomber purchase would enable the federal and provincial governments to command a large enough production run to sustain the production of the aircraft for domestic and export markets. As a result, Canadair would have a viable production schedule that would benefit the company, the forestry industry, and the labour forces of both the aerospace and forestry sectors.

Transport Canada will own the national fleet of aircraft on behalf of the federal government. Provinces and the territories will operate the national fleet aircraft as part of their present fire bomber fleets. Mr. Roberts praised the personal contribution of his colleague, Jean Jacques Blais, in support of the water bomber project. Mr. Blais' department will be contracting for the purchase of these fire fighting aircraft on behalf of Transport Canada.

The water bomber package is one of more than 100 projects to be funded under the Special Recovery Projects Program. All of these projects will have dual benefits, contributing to economic recovery and employment over the next four years and also putting in place key facilities, equipment or services that will enhance economic and regional development opportunities for the private sector in the balance of this decade and beyond.

- 30 -

Informations:

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D.A. Haggarty
Supply and Service Canada
(819) 994-3791

08/25/04/83 - 00080



Minister
Environment Canada

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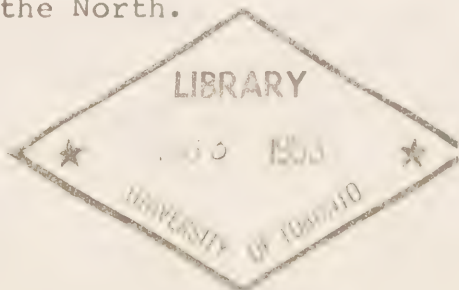
Date: July 16, 1983

For release: IMMEDIATE

ENVIRONMENT CANADA AND THE NORTH

PROBISHER BAY, N.W.T. -- Environment Minister John Roberts, today released a discussion paper entitled "Environment Canada and the North". The paper sets out Environment Canada's perceptions, roles and policies concerning the North and its development. It is intended to provide a basis for the territorial governments, other federal departments, interested organizations and citizens to review and comment on Environment Canada's northern policies and program activities.

Mr. Roberts indicated that the northern environment is one of the priority concerns he has directed his department to address during the 1980s and that this paper will serve to outline Environment Canada's contributions to northern environmental and resource management. The Minister emphasized, however, that views and suggestions are being solicited in order to identify ways in which Environment Canada can make a more effective contribution in the North.



In releasing the paper, the Minister acknowledged the overall direction and coordination provided by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development in federal matters North of 60°. He also observed that the paper sets out Environment Canada's responsibilities in the Yukon and Northwest Territories within the context of the department's existing national programs (migratory birds, parks, environmental protection, weather services, forest management, etc.).

The Minister pointed out that northern resource development projects such as those in the Beaufort Sea region present an opportunity for Canadians "to demonstrate, for themselves and other countries, concepts of development which ensure that the rights and welfare of all groups are respected. "We have an opportunity," Mr. Roberts emphasized, "to chart a course for northern development that provides an equitable distribution of the benefits and costs of development; a course that provides a basis for northerners, particularly the native people, to play a full role in shaping their destiny and to influence national affairs; and a course that guides resource use in ways that maintain cultural, environmental and renewable resource values for future generations."

Mr. Roberts has arranged for public consultation on "Environment Canada and the North" to be co-ordinated by the department's two regional directors-general with responsibility for the North. Both plan to conduct public meetings in the fall of 1983 to discuss the paper.

Inquiries and comments on the paper should be directed to the following offices:

For the Yukon:

Environment Canada
Pacific and Yukon Region
Information Directorate or
401 - 1001 West Pender Street
Vancouver, British Columbia
V6E 2M7

Environment Canada
Pacific and Yukon Region
225 Federal Building
Whitehorse, Yukon
Y1A 2B5

(604-666-6058)

(403-667-6487)

For the Northwest Territories:

Environment Canada
Western and Northern Region
9942-108 Street, Room 901 or
Edmonton, Alberta
T5K 2J5

Environment Canada
Western and Northern Region
Box 370
Yellowknife, Northern
Territories
X1A 2N3

(403-420-2550)

(403-873-3456)



Minister
Environment Canada

Ministre
Environnement Canada

Release

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BEAUFORT SEA ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PANEL RECOMMENDS SMALL-SCALE, PHASED DEVELOPMENT OF ARCTIC OIL AND GAS

OTTAWA, July 31, 1984 -- After three years of study through a formal, public review process of a proposal to produce and transport Beaufort Sea oil and gas, the Minister of the Environment, Charles Caccia and the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Douglas Frith, have released the Beaufort Sea Environmental Assessment Panel's Report.

The Panel concluded that Arctic oil and gas production and transportation may proceed subject to stringent conditions designed to protect the northern environment and to mitigate impacts on northern society.

The Panel concludes that energy production would be environmentally and socio-economically acceptable if started on a small scale, and then gradually phased in.

- more -

Canada



Energy transportation issues were of crucial interest to the Panel. A small-diameter oil pipeline could be built through the Mackenzie Valley, the report states. The Panel also concludes that a gas pipeline should be built only if the impacts on local communities would be no more than would be associated with small-scale development.

On the question of Arctic tanker traffic, the Panel concludes that tankers should not be allowed to carry oil through the northwest passage to east coast refineries, until after successful completion of a government research and preparation stage, followed by an experimental program using two Class 10 Arctic oil carrying tankers under specified conditions.

The Panel made 83 recommendations, dealing with the risks of oil spills, the human and natural environments, compensation, and the responsibilities of government agencies charged with overseeing northern development. Its report underscores the need for sustained and increased research by governments.

Central to the theme of the report is the Panel's insistence that northerners play a major role in energy project development. The Panel's two objectives in reviewing the development proposals were that northerners must be able to manage and benefit from changes caused by development, and that the risks involved must be acceptable to them.

In keeping with those objectives, the Panel has included an extra recommendation in the letter to the federal Ministers which accompanies the report. The Panel urged that the report be given wide circulation in order to ensure full consideration of its contents, especially by northerners. Messrs. Caccia and Frith agreed with this recommendation and requested the Federal Environmental Assessment Review Office with the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development to schedule meetings in the North to discuss and explain the contents of the report.

The Ministers congratulated the Panel on its comprehensive report. They were pleased to hear from the Chairman, Dr. John Tener, about the high standard of representations made by all intervenors and the proponents.

The formal review of Beaufort Sea energy development proposals began in July, 1980. The Panel was appointed in the spring of 1981. Preparation of a comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement by the project proponents (Gulf, Esso and Dome) took two years, and the Panel held public sessions from September to December, 1983 at 22 northern communities.

For further information contact:

Mr. David Marshall
FEARO
Vancouver, B.C.
(604) 666-2431

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Release

This information was released to the wire services on the date indicated. Despite the delay, some releases and speeches are mailed to out of town media because the content is not time dependent or because it will be useful for background files.

Date: February 4, 1984.

For release: Immediate



CANADA TO CONVENE TOP-LEVEL MEETING
ON ACID RAIN

OTTAWA -- Environment Minister Charles Caccia today announced that the environment ministers of eight European countries will meet in Ottawa, March 20 and 21, 1984, to address the urgent need to reduce emissions causing acid rain.

In addition to these countries which have announced sulphur emission control programs, invitations for observer states will be extended to other countries which have signed the convention on Long Range Transport of Air Pollutants. "Our position is that Canada cannot solve the acid rain problem alone. For this reason, I am appealing to my ministerial colleagues in Europe to join forces in acid rain control," Mr. Caccia said.

"It is my hope that the Ottawa conference will serve to reconfirm the pledge to control acid rain made by the most environmentally concerned members of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) and result in a call to other members of the ECE to join in a formal, binding commitment to reduce emissions" Mr. Caccia said. "In preparation for the Conference, I am visiting several European countries to see first hand the damage caused by acid rain." Mr. Caccia is visiting Germany, France and Switzerland between February 6-10.



At the first session of the Executive Body to the ECE Convention on Long Range Transport of Air Pollutants, held in Geneva last June, eight countries, including Canada, endorsed a decision to reduce sulphur dioxide emissions by 30 percent by 1993 based on 1980 emission levels. This group, comprising the Federal Republic of Germany, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Switzerland, Austria, France and Canada has long been concerned about the serious effects of acid deposition on human and natural environments.

Participants at the Ottawa meeting will discuss the effects of acid rain on forests in Europe and Canada and review individual national strategies to reduce long-range, transboundary air pollution.

Acid rain has destroyed hundreds of lakes in Canada and Scandinavian countries and has affected forest productivity in many countries. Buildings and monuments in North America and Europe have been damaged.

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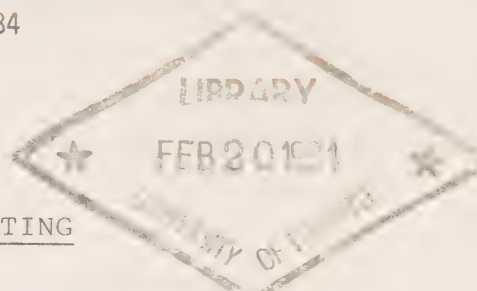
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Date: February 10, 1984

For release: Immediate



CANADA TO CONVENE TOP-LEVEL MEETING
ON ACID RAIN

GENEVA, SWITZERLAND -- "When trees die, we die with them," said Charles Caccia, Canadian Environment Minister after his 3 country European tour. "Canada's number one industry - forestry - is now imperilled if we do not stop acid rain. We have already witnessed the degradation of our lakes."

Mr. Caccia has invited Ministers from eight European countries to meet in Ottawa on March 20 and 21, 1984.

Mr. Caccia is in Geneva to meet with Klaus Sahlgren, Executive Secretary for the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE). He has informed Mr. Sahlgren of the Ottawa Conference plans while encouraging the Secretariat to carry out its present activities. Mr. Caccia urged Mr. Sahlgren to strengthen the ECE support for the Convention on Long Range Transport of Air Pollutants.



Senior officials of the participating countries have been meeting today in Geneva to lay the groundwork for the Ottawa Conference. It is expected that the Conference will serve to reconfirm the pledge to control acid rain made by the most-environmentally concerned members of the ECE and result in a call to other members of the ECE to join in a formal, binding commitment to reduce emissions. The ECE is a United Nations regional forum whose membership includes eastern and western European nations as well as the United States of America and Canada.

The Ottawa meeting is expected to consider the effects of acid rain on forests in Europe, to review individual national strategies to reduce long-range, transboundary air pollution, and to consider new approaches to solving the transboundary problem of acid rain.

Acid rain has destroyed hundreds of lakes in Canada and Scandinavian countries and has affected forest productivity in many countries. Buildings and monuments in North America and Europe have been damaged.

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10A/10/02/84 - 00518

Joint news release

Environment
Canada

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Canada

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Date: February 24, 1984

For release: Immediate

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL MINISTERS' MEETING ON ACID RAIN TO BE HELD IN OTTAWA

OTTAWA -- Federal Environment Minister Charles Caccia and Ontario Environment Minister Andy Brandt today announced that a federal-provincial meeting of Ministers will be held in Ottawa on March 6 to re-evaluate the Canadian position on the serious problem of acid rain.

The meeting is designed to review the Canadian course of action on the issue following the recent announcement by the Administration in the United States that no action will be taken to reduce acid rain.

Both Mr. Caccia and Mr. Brandt have expressed profound dismay that the U.S. will not be implementing emission reductions in the foreseeable future. "The attitude of the U.S. Administration is extremely disappointing in light of the damage that acid rain has caused and continues to cause to both American and Canadian interests relating to our rivers, lakes, fish and buildings", said Mr. Caccia. "Experience in Europe indicates that acid rain is a serious potential threat for Canadian and American forests".

Mr. Caccia said that he and his provincial colleagues will be discussing the measures Canada will have to take to curb the acid rain problem.

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Bulletin

Date: March 5, 1984

NOTICE TO MEDIA

CANADA TO HOST TOP-LEVEL MEETING ON ACID RAIN

Canadian Environment Minister Charles Caccia will host an international meeting of Environment Ministers from eight European countries in Ottawa on March 20 and 21, 1984 on the serious problem of acid rain.

Ministers attending will represent the Federal Republic of Germany, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Switzerland, France and Austria.

In addition, Mr. Caccia's provincial counterparts have been invited to participate. The Ottawa conference will explore the effects of acid rain on forests (especially in the European context), review individual national strategies to reduce long-range, transboundary air pollution and will focus on new approaches to solving the transboundary problem of acid rain.

Location: Conference Room (Ground Floor)
Lester B. Pearson Building
125 Sussex Drive
OTTAWA, Ontario

Date: March 20, 21, 1984.

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Media representatives are invited to attend the conference. To ensure adequate space please confirm attendance by calling Margit Doneit (819) 997-6555.

NOTE: The following is a summary agenda for the conference:

March 20

- 9:00 a.m. background briefing for media representatives
in the press room, ground floor.
- 9:30 a.m. reports by Ministers/representatives from
to participating countries on national air
12 noon pollution strategies and management systems to
reduce long-range transboundary air pollution.
- 12 noon media availability session for all Ministers
to
12:30 p.m.
- 2:30 p.m. discussion on the effects of sulphur compounds
to in the environment and an exchange of
5:30 p.m. information on advances in emission control
technology.

March 21

- 10:00 a.m. CLOSED session for Ministers to discuss the
to adoption of a joint Declaration and plan of
12 noon action on the issue.
- 12:00 noon wrap-up news conference and issuing of joint
communiqué. To be held in the Conference
Room.

European Ministers Responsible for the Environment who will be attending the conference.

Federal Republic of Germany: Mr. Carl-Dieter Spranger

France: Mme Huguette Bouchardeau

Denmark: Mr. Christian Christensen

Sweden: Mr. Svante Lundqvist

Finland: Mr. Matti Ahde

Norway: Mrs. Rakel Surlien

Austria: Dr. Kurt Steyer

Switzerland: Mr. Alphons Egli (or representative)

Other Invitees

Heads of United Nations Environment Program

World Health Organization

World Meteorological Organization

Economic Commission for Europe

Commissioner Responsible for the Environment, European Community

Mr. Ruckelshaus, Senator Stafford, Senator Moynihan, and Representative Waxman of the United States.

The Minister responsible for the Environment from Mexico.

For further information:

Margit Doneit (819) 997-6555
Peter Serafini (819) 997-6555

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Backgrounder
on the
UN Economic Commission for Europe

CONVENTION ON LONG-RANGE
TRANSBOUNDARY AIR POLLUTION

A Canada-Europe Ministerial Conference on Acid Rain is being held in Ottawa on March 20 and 21, 1984 to commemorate the first anniversary of the entry into force of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution. The Conference is being convened to address the urgent necessity for concerned parties to the Convention to reduce the serious effects of acid rain on our human and natural environments.

Canada's position has always been that it cannot solve the acid rain problem alone. For this reason, Mr. Caccia is appealing to his ministerial colleagues from the most environmentally concerned members of the ECE to join forces in acid rain control.

Background

A statement by President Leonid Brezhnev of the Soviet Union stimulated the idea of an international agreement on transboundary air pollution. At a 1975 East-West meeting of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, Mr. Brezhnev challenged fellow participants to reach multilateral solutions to three pressing problems: energy, transport, and the environment. Swedish and Norwegian environmental officials saw the possibility to use Mr. Brezhnev's speech as the beginning for international discussion, negotiation and perhaps even solutions to one of their long standing problems - long range transport of air pollutants. This problem has been labeled "acid rain".

Acid rain refers to precipitation (in the form of rain, hail or snow) which results when oxides of sulphur and nitrogen react chemically with oxygen and moisture in the atmosphere. The damage done to buildings, monuments, statues, to sport fishing and tourism, and to forestry are quite dramatic.

Acid rain is clearly a danger to the economic and social interests of Canada and the United States as well as European countries. Its economic effects are well known in North America. Canada's major resources threatened by acid rain are sport fishing, tourism and the forest products industry. These sectors generate eight percent of Canada's GNP. Each tonne of sulfur emissions causes roughly \$277 (US) in damages - more than \$5 billion per year for the US. And it's expected to increase to \$15 billion a year by the year 2000.



The Significance of the Convention

In 1979, Canada's Minister of Environment along with senior ministers from other ECE countries signed the Convention. The Convention came into force on March 16, 1983 and by February 1984, 30 countries had ratified the Convention.

The Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution is the only multilateral agreement on air pollution; therefore, it is expected that the parties to the Convention will provide leadership in acting to solve the acid rain issue.

The most promising of the Articles contained in the Convention deal with the provision for exchange of information regarding effects research, control strategies and control technologies, and that planners of any new sulfur-producing installations must take account of transboundary pollution. This last provision also states that these countries must exchange information on significant changes in pollution levels and their potential impact on other countries "downwind".

At the first session of the Executive Body to the ECE Convention (June 1983), eight countries, including Canada, endorsed a decision to reduce emissions by 30 percent by 1993 based on 1980 emission levels. This group, now comprising the Federal Republic of Germany, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Switzerland, France, Austria and Canada, has long been concerned about the serious effects of acid rain on human and natural environments.

Ministers of Environment from this same group of countries are now invited to join Canada's Minister Caccia in Ottawa to consider the effects of acid rain on forests in Europe, to review individual national strategies to reduce long-range transboundary air pollution, and to consider new approaches to solving the acid rain problem.

Minister
Environment CanadaMinistre
Environnement Canada

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ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PANEL CONDITIONALLY APPROVES PORT OF QUEBEC EXPANSION PROJECT

Ottawa, October 25, 1984 - Suzanne Blais-Grenier, Minister of Environment and Benoît Bouchard, Minister of State for Transport today released the report of the Environmental Assessment Panel that reviewed the Port of Québec Expansion Project.

The Panel recommends that the project be accepted under certain conditions. The project proposes a 42.5 hectares expansion and includes recreation facilities and a greenbelt serving as a buffer zone. The Panel recommends that this proposed expansion be final and limited to 42.5 ha.

The Panel suggests as a condition for acceptance that the first two construction phases be carried out simultaneously and that construction not occur during the spring and fall migration of birds. The Panel also recommends measures to reduce ambient noise and minimize impacts on air quality during construction.

All these mitigation measures during construction must be included in a monitoring program to be implemented under the guidance of a Monitoring Committee of representatives of government agencies and of local governments concerned.

On the question of the use of the new port expansion the Panel recommends that an environmental assessment be done. In accordance



with existing policies, each time the Port considers a new activity for the proposed expansion. It also recommends that the Port consult with interested parties at the beginning of the initial evaluation for each project. The Panel believes that measures be implemented to maintain air quality and reduce environmental risks associated with the trans-shipment of liquid bulk products. The Panel also recommends that the proponent ensure that the south-west inlet be protected.

In addition to the recommendations of its report, the Panel suggests in its letter of transmittal to the Ministers that the federal and Quebec Departments of the Environment evaluate the net productivity of intertidal zones in the Quebec City region. Mrs. Blais-Grenier indicated that she will consider this recommendation and that she will also transmit it to the Québec Minister of Environment.

The Ministers were pleased to receive the Panel report and the advice and recommendations concerning the Port expansion in the Beauport sector. Mr. Bouchard said that he was considering the report and that he will indicate later how the Panel recommendations would be integrated in the project design.

The Panel was appointed in the Fall of 1978 to review an initial proposal for the port expansion in Québec. The original proposal was modified following the Panel review of the Environmental Impact Statement of that project and more in-depth studies by the Port Administration. The 42.5 ha proposal which was discussed during public meetings held in March 1984, includes the development of a beach and green areas, in addition to the construction of port facilities.

For more information, contact:

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June 14, 1985

RELEASE OF LEPREAU II REPORT BY THE FEDERAL AND NEW BRUNSWICK MINISTERS OF ENVIRONMENT

Construction of a second 630 megawatt nuclear power generating unit at Point Lepreau N.B. can proceed without significant adverse effects, provided certain recommendations are followed, according to the Lepreau II Environmental Assessment Panel.

Suzanne Blais-Grenier and C.W. Harmer, Environment Ministers for Canada and New Brunswick, released the Panel's report and copies are being distributed today. It contains 39 recommendations on a variety of issues including radioactivity, emergency planning, social and economic effects, waste disposal, and decommissioning. Specific recommendations are addressed to the project proponent (Maritime Nuclear) as well as various federal and provincial agencies.

The Panel considered the actual impacts of the first unit in the process of assessing the incremental impacts of Lepreau II. It recommends that steps should be taken now to ensure that potential impacts are reduced to a minimum, and that existing concerns about Lepreau I are corrected.

The Panel report says emergency plans should be improved, by discontinuing the siren warning system, modifying the telephone system, and giving better information to the volunteer wardens. It recommends existing monitoring programs should be maintained and additional data collected. A committee of all agencies monitoring the effects of Lepreau I should be formed to co-ordinate and report on monitoring programs. The Panel also recommends a community advisory committee be created as soon as possible to provide a forum for exchange of information and problem-solving in communities adjacent to the plant site.

The proposal calls for a second 630 megawatt nuclear generating unit beside the existing Point Lepreau station. The proponent is Maritime Nuclear, a consortium of Atomic Energy of Canada Limited and the New Brunswick Electric Power Commission. The company intends to export power from Lepreau II to New England during the first years of operation.

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The Panel was appointed in November, 1983 by the federal and provincial Environment Ministers to make recommendations to the two governments about the environmental acceptability of the proposal. It held scoping meetings in November and December of that year to assist in development of the guidelines for preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement by Maritime Nuclear. During the summer of 1984 the impact statement was reviewed and public meetings were held in November to discuss the proposal.

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CANADA/ONTARIO FLOOD DAMAGE REDUCTION PROGRAM

January 23, 1986

ONTARIO AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS CONTINUE FLOOD DAMAGE REDUCTION MEASURES

An agreement to extend the Canada-Ontario Flood Damage Reduction Program to 1995 was announced today by Federal Environment Minister Tom McMillan, and Ontario Natural Resources Minister Vincent Kerrio.

The amended agreement will provide an additional \$8.4-million for flood risk mapping and other related studies. To date, the two governments have allocated \$9.2-million.

"This joint program has proved to be an effective tool in limiting risks of property damage and loss of life over the eight year period," said Mr. McMillan. "Its success is based on the early identification of flood-prone areas and on discouraging development in these areas."

"The Government of Ontario is pleased to continue to participate in and support this federal-provincial co-operative program, which provides flood risk mapping of municipalities where flooding problems and development pressures have been identified," Mr. Kerrio said.

more...

The program is designed to avoid mounting damage by discouraging some types of development in identified flood risk areas. Since 1978, the cost-shared program has been offered to conservation authorities and municipalities.

Once a community is mapped and identified as a flood risk area, the two governments agree not to promote, finance or engage in new developments vulnerable to flood damage. The participating municipalities are encouraged to recognize flood risk areas in planning documents and in the planning process so that future development will not be susceptible to flood damage.

- 30 -

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PR-HQ-086-03

McMILLAN RELEASES REPORT ON ST. CLAIR RIVER

OTTAWA -- January 30, 1986 -- Federal Environment Minister Tom McMillan, in concert with Ontario Minister of the Environment Jim Bradley, today released the report of a high-level scientific team investigating toxic chemicals in the St. Clair River.

The report details the extent of the pollution, identifies likely sources and recommends tougher prevention programs and a broadly based approach by both levels of government in dealing with all aspects of toxic chemicals. Mr. McMillan, who recently announced plans to strengthen the Environmental Contaminants Act, warned that "the situation in the St. Clair River is not an isolated case; it is a reminder of the price we pay for living in a chemical society. Recent events underscore the need for stronger laws and regulations, both federally and provincially, to control toxics from the cradle to the grave -- their development, manufacture, marketing, transportation and disposal."

The scientists' report makes 24 recommendations including: more stringent control of toxic substances; ambient water-quality objectives; hydrogeologic studies of fresh-water aquifer contamination in the Sarnia area; investigation of the relationship between the condition of the aquifer and the fact that toxics used to be stored, under high pressure, in the Detroit formation.

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A team of more than 50 Environment Canada scientists -- including hydrogeologists, organic chemists, chemical engineers, analytical chemists, hydraulic engineers and sedimentologists -- have been working since 1 November, 1985, when Mr. McMillan announced to the House of Commons that the presence of tarry puddles in the St. Clair River was being investigated by his Department.

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ST. CLAIR RIVER POLLUTION INVESTIGATION REPORT

Synopsis and Background

The St. Clair River Pollution Investigation Report, compiled in conjunction with Environment Ontario, is the result of an investigation of the pollution of the St. Clair River announced 1 November, 1985 by the Honourable Tom McMillan, federal Minister of the Environment. A high-level team of more than 50 Environment Canada scientists and engineers was mobilized, including experts in hydrogeology, organic chemistry, chemical engineering, analytical methodology, hydraulics and sedimentology.

Extremely contaminated sediments on the bottom of the St. Clair River in August of 1985, based on analyses of samples collected in 1984 and 1985, were the immediate reason for the investigation. In addition, the Minister expressed concern about Dow Chemicals Canada's spill of 11,000L perchloroethylene into the St. Clair River in August, 1985. He directed Environment Canada scientists:

- 1) to offer full scientific and technical assistance to Ontario to clean up the perchloroethylene spill;
- 2) to identify the full extent of contamination of the Upper St. Clair River and the sources of pollution;
- 3) to undertake specific studies of the contaminant puddles to determine their significance and possible source.

While the investigation was going on, the Department of Environment kept the public, local area officials, and American state and federal agencies informed of the work's progress. On 18 November, the Minister released the St. Clair Situation Report and, on 19 December, 1985, he made an interim report to the House of Commons.

In spite of various types of remedial action by industries in the past ten years, which have resulted in improvements to the environmental quality of the River, there is a severely polluted section of the Canadian side of the St. Clair River, directly adjacent to petro-chemical industries in the Sarnia area. The River water and sediments have been contaminated by a variety of chemical compounds from petro-chemical companies and refineries. The St. Clair River Pollution Investigation Report documents the nature and extent of that contamination, identifies pollution sources and recommends courses of action.

- Sediment and water quality surveys were carried out in the first two weeks of November.
- The NWRI underwater video camera photographed the contaminant puddles on 5 November.
- MOE/DOE authorized Dow to re-start vacuuming of the contaminant puddles and contaminated sediments in an area of the River, 50 metres by 50 metres, directly adjacent to Dow property.
- In mid-December, analysis showed that the puddles contained approximately 65 per cent perchloroethylene and 35 per cent carbon tetrachloride.
- On 19 December, the federal Minister, in an interim report, told the House of Commons that 80 per cent of the area had been cleaned up; he reported that DOE scientists believed that a small, continuous leak from the Dow property was the cause of the puddles; scientists had discounted leakage from underground waste storage caverns as the cause of the problem.
- On 23 December, Dow finished cleaning up the area.
- On 3 January, 1986, Dow divers discovered re-contamination of the cleaned-up area; the volumes involved were small, compared to the original spill, and the chemical composition of the puddles was different, leading the team to conclude that the material was not left over from the earlier episode.
- On 9 January, NWRI underwater camera recorded more puddles.
- On 16 January, MOE divers observed more puddles.
- The recurrence of the puddles in January convinced MOE and DOE scientists that there was a source other than the August perchloroethylene spill. Scientific analyses of the September puddles showed they were 97 per cent perchloroethylene, while the December puddles were 65 per cent perchloroethylene and 35 per cent carbon tetrachloride. The latter amounts were confirmed by further analyses conducted in January, 1986. This indicated a different source for the December-January puddles.
- In mid-January, Dow began on-site excavation on the perimeter of the First Street Sewer complex, approximately 15 metres from the discharge point at the River.
- On 22 January, Dow found a small seepage of dark oily material under the 1.4 metre sewer pipe (part of the First Street Sewer complex).

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- On 24 January, Dow divers crawled up another sewer pipe (which Dow calls the Acid Tile drain) which runs alongside the 1.4 metre pipe, where it discharges into the river and they discovered more puddles in the drain.
- As of 29 January, Dow is excavating around these pipes in order to divert any seepage, to prevent it from flowing into the River. The exact source of the seepage has not yet been detected but likely sources have been narrowed to leakage from waste stored on-site or from an undetected leaky connection somewhere on the site. Dow is planning to extend its trenches so that they will run 61 metres, parallel to the River, in order to intercept and remove materials that may be moving through the subsoil toward the River.

Contamination of the River

The contaminant puddles are symptomatic of contamination of the water and sediments in a 8-kilometre stretch of the St. Clair River fronted by ESSO Petroleum, ESSO Chemicals, Polysar, Dow Chemicals and Suncor. Elevated levels of hexachlorobenzene, hexachlorobutadiene, hexachloroethane, perchloroethylene, carbon tetrachloride, chloroform and other volatile chlorinated hydrocarbons have been detected in this section of the River. All of the named compounds are commonly associated with the petro-chemical industries.

Water Quality Findings (cf- pp 9 & 10 and pp. 44-61, Report)

Elevated levels of contaminants were detected in water adjacent to Dow's First Street Sewer complex. The maximum levels, which were found 100 meters downstream of the sewer, exceed provincial water quality guidelines:

- for hexachlorobenzene, by 370 times;
- for hexachlorobutadiene, by 13 times;
- for pentachlorobenzene, by 5 times; and
- for tetrachlorobenzenes, by 3 times.

Six hundred metres downstream of the Dow Sewer complex, hexachlorobenzene (HCB) levels in water exceed provincial river water objectives by 100 times. This situation reinforces the importance of at source reductions of HCB, which is highly toxic and persistent and which is categorized as a potential human carcinogen.

On 28 January, the Ontario Ministry of Environment announced that dibenzo dioxins and dibenzofurans had been detected in treated drinking water in Sarnia, Wallaceburg, Mitchell's Bay and Windsor. No dioxins or furans were found in treated drinking water at Stoney Point, Amherstburg or Walpole Island. Analyses were not complete when this report was printed; therefore, the statement on page 16 ("No dibenzo-p-dioxins or dibenzofurans were detected in any samples of treated water") is no longer considered accurate.

The dioxins and furans present are of the octachloro group and are the least toxic forms of the compounds. Moreover, the most toxic form of dioxin - 2,3,7,8-TCDD - has not been found in any raw or treated drinking water supplies.

The levels of octachlorodioxin and octachlorofurans found range from less than 10 to about 22 parts per quadrillion, which are several thousand times below the interim health-based guideline of 150,000 parts per quadrillion (or 150 parts per trillion). This interim guideline was set by a group of experts from Health and Welfare Canada and the provincial ministries of Health, Environment and Labour. It is based on evidence that octachlorodioxin is ten thousand times less toxic than 2,3,7,8-TCDD.

Sediment Quality Findings (cf - pp. 11-13 and pp. 62-83, Report)

Elevated levels of chlorinated organics and volatile hydrocarbons (commonly associated with wastes of the petrochemical industry) were found in a 100 metre wide band of sediments in the River adjacent to the properties of the industries.

- Concentrations in sediments were highest opposite Dow's First Street Sewer complex.

Aquatic Life (cf pp. 13-17 and pp. 84-105, Report)

Based on biological surveys (i.e. the abundance and diversity of species of life forms in the River bottom), the Ontario Ministry of the Environment has established that, between 1968 and 1985, the environmental quality of the St. Clair River as a whole improved dramatically.

Today the most severely affected area is directly adjacent to the Dow and Suncor properties; eight years ago, a much bigger section of the River was severely affected.

- Measurements of the contaminant levels of young fish (used as indicators of bio-accumulations of toxics) showed 230 parts per trillion (ppt) of hexachlorobenzenes and 500 ppt of octochlorostyrenes in samples taken immediately downstream of the Suncor property. Bio-accumulations of chlorinated organics were highest in clams (also used as bio-accumulation indicators) from the area between the Polysar-Dow property line in the north and the southern end of the Suncor property.

Sources of Contaminants

Point Sources (cf - pp 17-19 and pp. 106-129, Report)

- Dow's First Street Sewers are the major sources of chlorinated organics (hexachlorobenzene, chloroethane and hexachlorobutadiene) and of volatile hydrocarbons (1,2-dichloroethane perchloroethylene, 1,2-dichloropropane, carbon tetrachloride, benzene and ethyl benzene).
- Polysar is the major source of benzene: 112/kg/day.
- The township ditch, which discharges into the St. Clair River upstream of Dow and which receives drainage from Dow's Scott Road landfill, from Polysar, and from other companies, is a significant source of contaminants, especially of hexachlorobutadienes and trichlorobenzenes.

Possible Underground Sources (cf - pp. 20-21 and pp. 130-138)

- Analyses of groundwater samples taken from the CN tunnel showed that they were contaminated with chlorides, phenols and polyaromatic hydrocarbons.

RECOMMENDATIONS (cf - pp. 25-29, Report)

The report makes 24 specific recommendations, including:

- more stringent controls of toxic substances;
- urgently needed ambient water-quality objectives for more volatile and chlorinated organic compounds;
- ongoing hydrogeological studies that would focus on:
 - i) freshwater aquifer contamination in the Sarnia area;
 - ii) the relationship between the aquifer and the Detroit formation, which has received pressure-injected wastes in the past.

The federal government is already acting on the recommendations and is taking the following steps:

- 1) The Department of the Environment has committed its scientific and technical expertise to assist the province of Ontario to implement new limits on effluents, in order to control discharge of toxic chemicals.

- 2) The Department has already begun improved water quality surveillance of the St. Clair River, in order to get more accurate information on the amounts of contaminant present in the River and to assess the effectiveness of remedial action.
- 3) The Department, under the Canada/U.S. Upper Great Lakes Connecting Channels Study, has begun investigating groundwater contamination in the St. Clair area; this effort will be stepped up and, in the next two years, will focus on the Sarnia area.

In addition to such specific action, Environment Minister Tom McMillan has outlined a number of other steps being taken by the Department. In his 19 December, 1985 statement about the St. Clair River, he listed specific initiatives being taken by the Department;

- 1) Plans that are being drawn up to control chemicals from the cradle to the grave, starting with tough screening to ensure that only safe compounds and uses are permitted.
- 2) The Department has already begun a thorough review of all existing environmental legislation, the Environmental Contaminants Act in particular, as a prelude to overhauling and strengthening all pertinent laws and regulations; the process will be completed in cooperation with the other federal and provincial departments that share jurisdiction for pollution control.
- 3) Steps are being taken to rationalize environmental law within federal jurisdiction.
- 4) In addition to preventing pollution, there is a need to protect the resources they damage; Environment Canada, therefore, is examining all aspects of a Canada-wide water policy, in keeping with the recently-released Pearse Report.

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Release

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APPOINTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PANEL TO REVIEW MILITARY FLYING ACTIVITIES OVER LABRADOR AND QUEBEC

Ottawa, July 8, 1986 - Federal Environment Minister Tom McMillan today announced the members of the Environmental Assessment Panel that will conduct the public review of military flying activities in Labrador and Quebec. He also made public the terms of reference he issued to the Panel.

Mr. McMillan appointed seven members to the Panel. Dr. David Barnes, Director of the Atlantic Region of the Federal Environmental Assessment Review Office, was named Panel Chairman. Other members are: Mr. W.J. Stewart, retired Brigadier General from the Canadian Armed Forces; Mrs. Beatrice Watts of the Curriculum Centre in Northwest River, Labrador; Mr. Tom H. Northcott, a consulting biologist from St. John's; Dr. Paul F. Wilkinson, a consultant who has worked extensively with native people; Mr. T. McNeill, a businessman from Makkovik in Labrador; and Mr. William Jourdain, who has been active in the Montagnais band affairs in Sept-Iles, Quebec. A short biography of each Panel member is attached.

The Panel will examine the existing low-level flight training, which is ongoing in accordance with existing bilateral agreements with some of Canada's NATO allies, as well as a proposal to establish an integrated Tactical Fighter Weapons Training Centre (TFWTC) for training NATO air forces. The proposed Centre would require airport and infrastructure expansion, the building of training facilities at Goose Bay and the development of tactical weapons ranges in Labrador.

In its review, the Panel will consider: the impacts of current, planned and proposed military flight training activities on the natural environment, particularly on the caribou; the effect of low-flying aircraft on the health of the populations affected; and the socio-economic effects of the proposal on communities in the region and on permanent and temporary settlements within



flight corridors and target practice areas. Among the socio-economic effects to be reviewed are those on employment and economic development, on community facilities and infrastructures, and on native social organization, lifestyles and land use. Land claims policy and Canada's defence policy are excluded from the Panel's mandate.

Paul Dick, Associate Minister of National Defence, whose predecessor requested the public review, indicated that it was important that a thorough public assessment of the proposed TFWTC be undertaken before Canada made its final decision concerning the Centre. Currently, it appears that such a decision will be made early in 1988. Mr. Dick added that the public review will assist the Department of National Defence in designing its existing low-level flight training so as to minimize any adverse impact it might have.

Mr. McMillan also announced that, given that the military flying activities are subject to public review under the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement (JBNQA) as well as under the federal Environmental Assessment and Review Process, he has signed a Memorandum of Understanding concerning the review with the Kativik Regional Government of northern Quebec. The Federal Administrator of the JBNQA is also party to the Memorandum of Understanding.

Mr. McMillan has appointed a member proposed by the Kativik Regional Government to the Panel, which will be holding public meetings in Northern Quebec in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding.

Mr. McMillan said he was pleased that an understanding could be reached that was satisfactory to the native peoples of northern Quebec. He indicated that only one public review, which will incorporate certain principles of the JBNQA, would now proceed, in a timely fashion without any duplication of effort.

For further information please contact:

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June 10, 1987

LAKE LEVEL CONDITIONS CONTINUE TO IMPROVE

Cottagers and residents of Great Lakes shorelines will see lower lake levels this summer than last year and, in many areas, wider beaches due to a period of below-normal precipitation which began last October and has continued through May.

"While larger beaches and the resulting lower risk of storm damage are hopeful signs, there is still danger that storms -- particularly in the fall and winter -- could cause extensive damage to shore property," said Ralph Moulton, Manager of Environment Canada's Great Lakes Water Level Communications Centre. "Relatively calm weather has helped limit fall, winter and spring shore damage."

Since mid-October, 1986, precipitation over the Great Lakes basin has been about 35 per cent below normal, which has decreased supplies to the lakes. A further result of this will be lower depths for recreational boats at docks and over rocks in shallow water.

This low precipitation has reduced Lake Superior's level to near the long term average, which is almost 30 centimetres below its level of one year ago. This lake is expected to remain close to average levels throughout the summer and fall. As a result, the International Joint Commission reduced Lake Superior's outflow for June by 15 percent from that of May.

Lakes Huron, St. Clair and Erie are all over 20 centimetres below their levels of early June 1986. Lake Huron has seen the most dramatic improvement over the past eight months with a level 44 centimetres lower than it was in early October of 1986. However, levels of all three middle lakes are still 50 to 60 centimetres above average.

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With normal rainfall, these lakes are expected to be in the range of 35 to 50 centimetres above average and 25 to 60 centimetres below last year's levels throughout the summer and fall. Even if rainfall is abnormally high, levels should remain below those recorded in 1986.

Lake Ontario, which is currently 24 centimetres below its level of one year ago, is at its average level for this time of year. It is expected to remain near average levels over the next six months.

For more information about lake levels and the federal government's response to the problems high water levels have caused, the Great Lakes Water Level Communications Centre has speakers available to make presentations to interested groups. Arrangements may be made by contacting the Centre at 416-336-4581.

CONTACT: RALPH MOULTON 416-336-4581



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PR-HQ-088-26A

MCMILLAN RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS SIERRA CLUB AWARD

SAN FRANCISCO -- 07 May, 1988 -- The U.S. Sierra Club, America's oldest and most famous national conservation organization, today announced that Canadian Environment Minister Tom McMillan is the 1988 recipient of the club's highest award for service to the environment by a public official.

At its annual meeting in San Francisco, California, Mr. McMillan received the Edgar Wayburn Award for outstanding environmental work by a political leader. It is the first time since the award was created in 1979 that a foreign government official has been honored by the American club.

"To my mind, the award reflects the growing importance Canadians attach to a healthy environment and the progress the country is making in preserving its rich natural heritage," Mr. McMillan said.

"I feel deeply honored to receive such a prestigious award, coming as it does from one of the most respected environmental groups in the world."

In the keynote address to roughly 1,000 delegates at the award ceremony, Mr. McMillan called on the United States to impose tough restrictions on American sources of acid rain that, he said, "are destroying Canadian lakes, fish, trees, agriculture and heritage buildings."

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He said that, in the United States, only a targetted and scheduled reduction program of the kind Canada itself has launched will extinguish the environmental time bomb that risks destroying the environment of both countries.

Earlier this year, Mr. McMillan received the Canadian Governor-General conservation award for his role in preserving the South Moresby area of British Columbia as a national park reserve.

For more information:

Terry Collins
Office of the Minister
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(Aussi disponible en français)

*The
Sierra
Club*

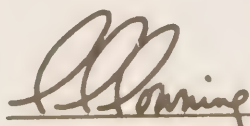
EDGAR WAYBURN AWARD

The Honorable

TOM McMILLAN

MINISTER OF THE ENVIRONMENT, CANADA

For his notable, and continuing contributions to protect the quality of Canada's —and North America's— lands, water, natural resources and wildlife. His accomplishments include the establishment of new national parks; a strong anti-pollution program and working with other countries for global environmental protection.



PRESIDENT, for the members
1988

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Minister of the Environment



Ministre de l'environnement

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**MINISTER OF THE ENVIRONMENT APPOINTS PANEL
TO REVIEW NUCLEAR FUEL WASTE MANAGEMENT AND DISPOSAL CONCEPT**

OTTAWA -- OCTOBER 4, 1989 -- Federal Environment Minister Lucien Bouchard today announced the appointment of a seven-member Environmental Assessment Panel to review the concept of deep geologic disposal of nuclear fuel wastes in Canada. The Panel will hold public hearings in Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick and may expand these to other provinces. The review was requested by the Minister of Energy, Mines, and Resources.

The Panel will be chaired by Raymond Robinson, Executive Chairman of the Federal Environmental Assessment Review Office (FEARO). Other members are: William Fyfe, Dean of Science at the University of Western Ontario; Lois Wilson, President of the World Council of Churches; Louis LaPierre, professor of Biology at the University of Moncton; Lionel Reese, Chief, Department of Nuclear Medicine at St. Joseph's Hospital in London, Ontario; Louise Roy, environmental consultant and social relations systems analyst; and, Pieter Van Vliet, immediate past President of the Engineering Institute of Canada.

The Panel will review the safety and the acceptability of the concept of deep geologic disposal of nuclear fuel wastes as proposed by Atomic Energy of Canada Limited (AECL). It will also study a range of related nuclear fuel waste management issues. In examining future steps to be taken with respect to the management of these wastes, the Panel will examine the social, economic, and environmental implications of a possible nuclear fuel waste management facility.

A Scientific Review Group of distinguished independent experts will be established by the Panel to facilitate evaluation of scientific and technical matters. It will conduct a specific in-depth examination of the safety and scientific acceptability of AECL's disposal concept and report its findings to the Panel.

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The panel review will be conducted in accordance with the requirements of the federal Environmental Assessment and Review Process (EARP). Opportunity for public involvement in the review and participation in issues workshops will be announced later.

Mr. Bouchard noted that national and provincial energy policies and the role of nuclear energy within these policies are not included in the panel's mandate. "However", Mr. Bouchard added, "I fully agree with those organizations and individuals who have asked that these important matters be addressed. To that end, my colleague, Jake Epp, Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, and I have agreed that it would be useful to encourage broader public discussion of these issues in a more appropriate forum. We will, therefore, in the months ahead, be considering the most effective way of launching such a discussion."

Mr. Bouchard emphasized that the review will provide for a full and thorough public discussion of the geological disposal concept and of related issues of concern to Canadians. Its results will be essential in assisting governments in making decisions on the safety and acceptability of the disposal concept and on the steps that must be taken to ensure the safe long-term management of nuclear fuel waste in Canada.

A copy of the terms of reference and short biographies of panel members are attached.

Further Information:

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